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THE BUTLER ANCESTRY

OF

GEN. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN BUTLER

IN AMERICA.

By  
Blanche (Butler) Ames

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LOWELL, MASS.,

1895.

## PREFACE.

The Butler family—descended through Malichi Butler from Mr. Nicholas Butler, of Eastwell, Kent, England, who came with his wife Joyce to America in 1637—has always supposed that Malichi Butler was the earliest ancestor in this country, and the town histories of Nottingham, New Hampshire, Woodbury, Connecticut, and others have so stated. The fact that Malichi Butler sent his oldest son Benjamin to Harvard College, where he graduated in 1752, seemed to indicate a more intimate knowledge of the institutions of the country than a newcomer would have been likely to have had, and this fact induced a close search for any clue that might lead to a better knowledge of an earlier family record. The coincidence of the military service of two Zephaniah Butlers in the Revolutionary War, one from New Hampshire, the known descendant of Malichi, and the other from Martha's Vineyard, suggested the latter locality as a possibly fertile soil for genealogical research.

The results of such search are given in the following pages.

BLANCHE BUTLER AMES,  
Lowell, Mass.

June 19, 1895.



THE BUTLER ANCESTRY OF  
GEN. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN BUTLER

IN AMERICA.

—1144509

- I. Generation, Mr. Nicholas Butler, b. —; d. Aug. 13, 1671; m. Joyce —.
- II. Son, John Butler, b. —; d. 1658; m. Mary —, b. —; d. —.  
Nicholas Norton, b. 1610; d. 1690; m. Elizabeth —, b. —; d. 1690; dau. Priscilla.
- III. Son, Capt. John Butler, b. 1652; d. 1733-1738; m. Priscilla Norton, b. —; d. —.
- IV. Son, Malichi Butler, b. —; d. —; m. Jemimah Daggett, b. —; d. —.
- V. Son, Zephaniah Butler, b. 1728; d. 1800; m. Abigail Cilley, b. 1740; d. 1824.
- VI. Son, John Butler; b. May 17, 1782; d. March, 1819; m. July 21, 1811, Charlotte Ellison, b. Feb. 4, 1792; d. Oct. 4, 1870.
- VII. Son, Maj.-Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, b. Nov. 5, 1818; d. Jan. 11, 1893; m. Sarah Jones Hildreth, b. Aug. 17, 1816; d. April 8, 1876.

Pedigree given by Harriet M. Pease from data gathered by her father, Richard L. Pease of Edgartown, historian and genealogist, and from town and probate records Martha's Vineyard.

January, 1895.

"Nicholas Butler came from Eastwell, in Kent, Eng., and was styled yeoman. He embarked with his wife Joyce, three children, and five servants, at Sandwich on the *Hercules* June, 1637. He joined the church and was made freeman March 14, 1638-9. He had a grant of land at Dorchester Neck in 1637, and was proprietor in the great lots in 1647. In 1651 he deputed his son John his attorney and went to Martha's Vineyard, where he died."—*Histories of Dorchester and Watertown*.

"Mr. Butler was Nicholas Butler, ancestor of all that name on the Vineyard. In early colonial times but very few men were styled Mr. The ordinary term was goodman."—*History of Martha's Vineyard*.

"June 6, 1654, chosen by the town John Butler<sup>2</sup> to be leader of the company for this year."

"In 1655 John Butler<sup>2</sup> chosen leader for the year."

John Butler<sup>2</sup> was constable in 1658.

John Butler<sup>3</sup> was constable in 1692.

Among a list of names of those who on Aug. 16, 1662, voted that they would "follow Thomas Bayes as leader for the safety of the town" is that of Mr. Butler. The name of Nicholas Norton also appeared in the list above alluded to.

"Malichi Butler of Windham, Conn., sold one-half of a pew to his nephew, Shubael Butler, 111 1745, in Martha's Vineyard. Malichi Butler of Woodbury, Conn., sold land to John Pease in 1758 in Martha's Vineyard."

Malichi Butler is mentioned in the Public

Records of Connecticut, Vol. XI., page 463:

"Upon the memorial of Matthew Mitchel, Aaron Mallery, Seth Preston, etc., selectmen in and for the town of Woodbury, shewing to this Assembly that sometime in September, 1757, the selectmen of said Woodbury by and with the advice of the civil authority of said Woodbury, took one Malachi Butler of said Woodbury, with his family and estate, into their hands; he, the said Butler, through idleness, mismanagement, and bad husbandry being then in a likely way to spend all his estate, and then took an inventory of his estate, which amounted to £179, one hundred of which is real estate, and the just debts then due from said estate and what hath since been expended for his support amount to £127 11s. 11d. lawful money, so that the debts, etc., surmount the movable part of said estate the sum of £48 11s. 11d., and that the said Butler yet remains under circumstances not fit to have management of his affairs; and praying to this Assembly for liberty to sell so much of the real estate of said Butler as to make said £48 11s. 11d. lawful money with incident charges.

"Resolved by this Assembly that the said selectmen have liberty, and liberty is hereby granted unto them, to sell so much of the real estate of the said Butler as to make said sum of £48 11s. 11d. lawful money together with the charges arising by said sale."

Malichi Butler's great-granddaughter, Betsey Morrill Butler,—Mrs. Daniel Stevens of Nottingham, New Hampshire,—born in 1808, is authority

for the following: "Malichi Butler, who made waste of his property, was my great-grandfather. He was at times partially insane and did many strange and some decidedly queer things. His sons would have hesitated about putting him under guardianship themselves, as he was sane part of the time and they would rather he should be restrained by the town authorities."

It is worthy of note that his first son, Benjamin, who graduated from Harvard in 1752, was living in New Hampshire, and his fourth son, Zephaniah, almost thirty years of age, was serving with the Connecticut troops in 1757 and '58. Thus Malichi was an old man and liable to the weaknesses of age. He was also a newcomer in Woodbury, having moved thither from Windham, Conn. The records of Martha's Vineyard also show that in 1758 he sold property in Martha's Vineyard to John Pease. This was a year after the selectmen of Woodbury had seen fit to undertake the management of his affairs and had made an inventory of his property in that town.

The dates of the births of Malichi and Jemimah Daggett Butler have not been found. This is due probably to the fact that they belonged in Edgartown, Martha's Vineyard, and the early records of that town have been lost.

"The first Butler births recorded in the now oldest book of records are the children of Simeon Butler, the eldest, born in 1713. Simeon was a brother of Malichi. The others may have been recorded in the first book of land records, 'The

Black Book ' so called, which was believed to have been purposely destroyed by one ———, who was with the town clerk, in whose custody the book was the night he died, and the book was never seen afterwards. It was to the advantage of this ——— and to others of his name to have the book out of the way. Titles to property could not then be proved. . . . Births, marriages, and deaths were mixed up with records of land and town meetings, etc."

The children of Malichi Butler and Jemimah Daggett were Benjamin, Silas, Solomon, Zephaniah, Thankful, Susannah, Margery, Lydia, Mary.

Silas Butler settled in New York, leaving many descendants. Solomon Butler went south and settled in South Carolina. Zephaniah and Benjamin settled in Nottingham, N. H.—*History of Nottingham and Deerfield.*

Zephaniah Butler, son of Malichi and Jemimah Daggett Butler, was born in Windham, Conn., in 1728. (His father moved to Woodbury, Conn., in 1758.) He (Zephaniah) married Abigail Cilley, daughter of Capt. Joseph Cilley of Nottingham, N. H., and sister of Gen. Joseph Cilley, who served in the Revolutionary War as Major and Colonel. Capt. Zephaniah Butler served with Connecticut troops in the French war under General Wolfe at the siege of Louisburg, Quebec, and other engagements. In the war for American independence, he (Zephaniah) joined the army under Gen. John Stark, and with his eldest son, Benjamin (who was afterward on the staff of his

uncle, Col. Joseph Cilley), was at the battle of Bunker Hill. His second son, Enoch, was also with him at Bunker Hill. He died at Nottingham, N. H., in 1800.

Zephaniah Butler was in Capt. Nathan Sanborn's company, in Colonel Lash's regiment, raised to reinforce the Continental army in New York Sept., 1776; also in Capt. Amos Morrill's company, in Col. John Stark's regiment, April 8, 1777.—*Revolutionary Rolls, New Hampshire Records*.

Capt. John Butler, son of Zephaniah Butler and Abigail Cilley Butler, was born in Nottingham May 17, 1782. He married Sarah Bachelder of Deerfield, N. H., June 5, 1803. The children were Polly True, b. June 8, 1804; Sally, b. March 11, 1806; Betsey Morrill, b. Jan. 9, 1808. Mrs. Sarah Batchelder Butler died Feb. 23, 1809. Capt. John Butler then married Charlotte Ellison, July 21, 1811. Their children were Charlotte, b. May 13, 1812; d. Aug., 1839; Andrew Jackson, b. Feb. 13, 1815; d. Feb. 11, 1864; Benjamin Franklin, born at Deerfield, N. H., Nov. 5, 1818; d. Jan. 11, 1893.

Upon the breaking out of the war of 1812, John Butler applied to the War Department for permission to raise a company of light dragoons among his neighbors. Permission was granted, the company was raised, and he was commissioned its captain on the 23d of July, 1812, by President Madison.

- I. Generation, John Daggett; m. 1st wife (name unknown); 2d wife, Bathsheba Pratt; d. about 1673.

Governor Thomas Mayhew; 1st wife probably Martha Parkhurst; 2d wife, Grace Paine, widow of Thomas Paine; dau. Hannah.

- II. Son, Thomas Daggett, b. (unknown); d. about 1691; m. Hannah Mayhew, b. April 15, 1635; d. (no record of death) in Watertown, Mass.

- III. Son, Thomas Daggett, b. (unknown); d. Aug. 25, 1726; m. Elizabeth Hawes, daughter of Edward Hawes of Yarmouth; d. 1733.

- IV. Daughter, Jemimah Daggett; m. Malichi Butler.

"John Daggett, born unknown, died May, 1673, at Plymouth. He came to this country in 1630, in Governor Winthrop's company, settled at Watertown, Mass., and became a man of note there. In 1644 he removed to Martha's Vineyard in the company of Gov. Thomas Mayhew, and was a prominent man of the company. He was married twice. It has not been ascertained who his first wife was, or where she was born. He married the second time at Plymouth, Mass., Bathsheba Pratt, a widow, Aug. 29, 1667."

Thomas Daggett, of what is now called Edgartown, Mass., son of John Daggett<sup>1</sup>, married at Chillmark, Martha's Vineyard, Mass., Hannah Mayhew, the eldest daughter of Gov. Thomas Mayhew. She was born in Watertown, Mass., April 15, 1635.



The date of marriage is not known, neither is the date of birth of Thomas Daggett, nor of his death. It was in the year 1691, as near as can now be determined. "Governor Mayhew, in his will he 'appoints' my son Daggett to be one of the overseers to see this my last will to be done; which I praise God I have written with my own hand this sixteenth day of June, and sealed it with my own seal, Anno Domini, 1681." Hannah (Mayhew) Daggett outlived her husband, and married 2d Samuel Smith, who lived to the advanced age of 103 years. No record of her death has been found.

"John Daggett<sup>1</sup>, senior, chosen corporal in 1653."

"April 13, 1691, at a meeting of all the melisha in general of the town of Edgartown, Left. Thomas Daggett, Esq., was chosen by them their captain by unanimous choice by them. At the same time John Butler had the place of first or eldest sargeant,"

"Thomas Daggett, Clerk of the Court at the Vineyard, August the 8th, 1670."—*Plymouth Colonial Records, Vol. V., p. 33.*

"Thomas Daggett was surveyor in 1673, 1675, and 1682. Was Committee in 1691." "Was Selectman in 1700, 1703, 1712, 1717, and 1719."

"Thomas Mayhew in 1671, was made Governor of the islands of Martha's Vineyard, Nantucket, and all others embraced within the limits of Dukes County as originally constituted." "Gov. Mayhew died in March, 1682, lacking six days of



being ninety years old. He was sick but six days, and preached the day before he was taken sick."

"Thomas Mayhew (Watertown) . . . must have been here in 1631, and he served as a merchant at Southampton, Eng., as Bond relates, and here as representative 1636-44, except 1642. Was active in trade, first at Medford, afterwards at Watertown, but was induced to remove to the Vineyard about 1647, where he was proprietor's Governor and preacher to the Indians above 33 years."—*Savage*.

"An imperfect impression of Mr. Mayhew's seal on wax remains upon this letter, the escutcheon bearing on a chevron, between three birds, five lozenges, with a mullet as a difference in middle chief. This coat is given by Burke as that of Mayor of Denton, Co. Wilts." The birds are probably Cornish Choughs, one of which constituted the crest of the Lestinthiel (Co. Cornwall) family of Mahewe or Mayew, and of the Mayhews of Essex."—*Plymouth Col. Records, Vol. X., p. 406*.

"Edward Hawes, Deputy 1645 for 16 years, Selectman 23, Town Treasurer 28 years, came passenger on ship *James* of London, which sailed from Southampton, England, about the sixth of April, 1635. He was described as a 'cutler,' doubtless to avoid being detained by the authorities as other emigrants were for similar reasons. He was also set down as 'late of London.' Mr. Hawes resided for some years at Duxbury before he came to this town (Yarmouth). In 1645 he

was an inhabitant of Yarmouth and a Deputy to the Court. He was appointed in 1672 Chairman of the Land Committee, and for many years was one of the Board of Selectmen and Assessors. He held the position of Town Clerk, succeeding to Anthony Thacher at the time of his death. His lands were situated between the lands of the Hallets and Thachers, at the eastern part of what is now called Hallet Street, and the highway running to the easterly side of Dennis Pond was long known as 'Hawes' Lane.' He survived nearly all the first settlers in Yarmouth. His death is recorded with great formality in the old records: 'Mr. Samuel Hawes died upon the 9th day of June, and was burried the tenth day of June, one thousand six hundred and ninety three, 1693.' His age at the time of his death is not given, but he must have been about eighty years old. He was a man of education and good parts, and was a leading character of the town and colony. He had one son, John, who was also a man of influence and high character."—*Swift's History of "Old Yarmouth."*

"James Minott, M. A. and B. A., born 14 September, 1653, was second son of Captain John Minott of Dorchester, who married 19 May, 1647, Lydia, daughter of Nicholas Butler."—*Sibley's Harvard, Vol. II.*


Mr. Nicholas Butler deceased: the 13<sup>th</sup> of August in the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred seventy-one.

### THE RECORD OF HIS WILL:

This doth testifie that I Nicholas Butler, Being at present sound in memory, doe now by this my last will give my estate whatsoever that I left after I shall be burried like a Christian, wholly unto my wife Joyce Butler, uppon serious consideration looking to dispose of to hir children and my children, as she shall for good and hereunto I praise (God) being of memorie as aforesaid sound. I do witness with my hand this 12<sup>th</sup> of August: 1671

This will is witnessed  
by us Thomas Mayhew

Th<sup>o</sup> Birchard

The mark  of

Nicolas Norton

his sight as it were  
gon

the mar X of  
Nicolas Butler.

Mrs. Joyce Butler is By the worshipfull Governour and Assistants, sitting in court this 26<sup>th</sup> day of June 1672: admitted: Administratrix & Executrix uppon the Estate of Mr. Nicolas Butler deceased.

### THE INVENTORY OF THE ESTATE.

Imprimis to one common & half with house fence and all	
priviledges . . . . .	80-00-00
to fiveteen pound of pewter at 1 <sup>s</sup> 8 <sup>d</sup> . . . . .	01-02-06
to twelve pound of pewter at 1 <sup>s</sup> 2 <sup>d</sup> . . . . .	00-14-00
to eight pound of pewter at 1 <sup>s</sup> 6 <sup>d</sup> . . . . .	00-12-00
to one Silver Boule . . . . .	03-07-00
to a Brass Candlestick . . . . .	00-02-00
to 3 brass kettles at 1 <sup>s</sup> pr pound . . . . .	03-00-00
to two Iron potts one frying pan and dripping panns .	02-10-00
to one trammell, 2 payer of tongues, one payer of Andirons	
and Spitt . . . . .	00-15-00

Copied from Vol. I., page 313, Edgartown Land Records.

Copy Attest:

L. C. WIMPENNEY,  
*Register of Deeds for Dukes County.*

I Joice Butler being through God's blessing, at present, of sound memory and understanding, doe make this my last will, and Testament: Revoking all former whatsoever: and first my will is and I will and bequeath to my Son Hennerie (?) Butler, my Silver Boule and a Carpet, & to each of his three Sonnes, one Silver Spooone: Nextly I will and bequeath, to my Grandson John Butler, all the brass of the kitchen: and to my Grandson Thomas Butler an Iron pottage pot, an Iron Kettle, and my bead, Beadstead, and all the furniture belonging to it, as it is in present use, as two pair of blankets, two pilloes &c. And I Give more to my Grandson John Butler, all the Bead and Beading above Stairs: Nextly I will and bequeath, all my linnen, to be Equally devided Between my Grandchildren, John and Thomas Butler, and Mary Athearn: And Nextly I will and Bequeath to my three Grandchildren aforesaid all my Great Cattle to be Equally devided among them, that is to say, John Butler Thomas Butler and Mary Athearn: except only that my Grandson Thomas Butler shall have two more to his part: and one heifer before the devision set apart, which heifer I doe will and bequeath to my Grandson Samuell Minott: And my will is, and I bequeath all my Sheep to my two Grandsons John Butler and Thomas Butler, to be Equally devided between them: Nextly I will and bequeath to my Grandson Thomas Butler my Dwelling house, with the long Table and hanging Cupboarde, and to my Grandson John Butler, my Cupbord, and the Chest which was Joseph Butlers: and to my Granddaughter Mary Athearn, my chest and two Joint Stools: and as to my chaires, I give the table chairs to my Grandson Thomas Butler: the remainder of the chaires I leave to be Equally devided between my Grandchildren, John and Thomas Butler, and Mary Athearn. Nextly my will is, and I doe oblige my two Grandsons, John, & Thomas Butler, that they should pay to my Grand Daughter Hannah Chadduck, two hundred weight of fleece wooll, yearly fivety pounes, untill it is payed which is within four year: And as to Landes, I will and Bequeath, all my landes with the privelleges and appurtenances, to My Grandson Thomas Butler, and my pewter, I will to be Devided, as my linnen as abovesaid, viz: between my Grandchildren John & Thomas Butler, and Mary Athearn:

And lastly I Appoint my Grandson John Butler to be sole Executor and Administrator, to this my last will. and my will is, and I doe Request my friendes, Mr. Richard Sarson, and Matthew Mayhew to be overseers that it may be performed: And in witness of this my last will and Testament I the said Joice Butler, have put heerto my

hand and seall this thirteenth day of March, in the year of our Lord,  
one thousand, six hundred seaventy and nine, alias eighty

Joice                      Butler  
her                      **I B**                      marke

Witness

Matt: Mayhew

Richard Sarson:



The inventory of the Estate of Mrs Joice Butler deceased taken  
by Joseph Norton and Thomas Trappe October 28<sup>th</sup> 1680.

the landes and accommodations, a five and twentieth lot,

valued att	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	90-00-00
half a commonage	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	08-00-00
land at the Short Neck	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	02-00-00
two shares & halfe of meadow not of said accommodations,									12-10-00
The Moveable Estate valued at 102 <sup>p</sup> 12 <sup>s</sup>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	102-12-00

Copied from Vol. I., page 314, Edgartown Land  
Records.

Copy Attest:

L. C. WIMPENNEY,  
*Register of Deeds for Dukes County.*

In the name of God, Amen. November the Tenth day and in the  
seventh year of his Majestys Reign Anno Domini seventeen hundred  
& thirty three. I, John Butler of Edgartown in Dukes County in his  
Majestie's Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England Gent.  
Calling to mind the Mortality of my Body and knowing that it is  
appointed for all men once to Dye Do make & Ordain this my Last  
Will & Testament. first of all I give my body to the Grave &  
Recomend my soul into the hands of God that gave itt, & my body  
to be buried in Decent & Christian manner at the Discretion of my  
Executor hereinafter named: And my Will is that all my Just Debts  
be first Paid out of my Personall Estate, and that my loving wife  
Percilla have the third part of my Personall Estate and the Improv-  
ment of one Third part of my Reall Estate in ye same way and  
manner as she would have had if I had made no will: and the Im-  
provement of all the Rest of my household Goods During her Natural  
Life.

Item: I give and Bequeath unto my son Henry a Gun that he hath now in his hands. I give him no more having given him near what I intended.

Item: I have Given to my son John Butler what I intended allready and I have also given to my son Thomas Late Deceased what I Intended to give to him which is the Reason I give Nothing to his Children more than I have given.

Item: I give to my son Nicholas all my Shoomakers tools of all sorts he having had near his part: and I have also given to my son Samuel what I Intended for him & therefore it is that I give Nothing to him nor to my son John & Thomas's children. I also give my Daughter Joyce Newcomb nothing she having had her part:

Item: I give and bequeath to my son Onesimus my bed that I lie upon & bedding and furniture belonging thereunto, and all my wearing Apparell and one half of my Sheep and the hundred Pounds that is Due from John to Onesimus.

Item: I have also Given to my son Simeon his full part of my Estate & therefore give him no more.

Item: I give and Bequeath to my son Zephaniah Late Deceased, children (viz) To Shobal & Sarah Butler one half Quarter of Common Lands throughout the Common Land in this Town Edgartown, Except Chapaquidick & a ten Acre lot on the line & what I have not as yet Disposed of in the Plain lots (viz) the half Quarter of a Share of Common & the Lands given to Shubal & Sarah I give two thirds to Shubal and one third to Sarah to them their heirs and assigns forever.

Item: I have Given to my son Malachi Butler his full part allready & therefore I give him nothing more.

Item: I give and Bequeath to my Daughter Precilla Snow the two thirds of my household Goods after my wife's Decease.

Item: I Give and Bequeath unto my son Gamaliel Butler all my other Estate both Reall & Personall in Possession or Reversion to him his heirs & Assigns forever: whome I Likewise Constitute and Appoint my sole Executor to this my Last Will & Testament.

In witness whereof I, the said John Butler have hereunto sett my hand and Affixed my seal the Day and Year first above written:

Signed Sealed Published & Declared by the said John Butler to be his Last Will and Testament in presence of Benjamin Smith Timothy Daggett, Mary Smith.

JOHN BUTLER.



Copied from Vol. III., page 98, Edgartown Probate Records.

A true copy. Attest:

BERIAH T. HILLMAN,  
*Register of Probate.*

Know all men by these Presents that I John Butler of Edgartown In Dukes County In the Province of Massachusetts Bay in New England having Bargained and Sold and do by these Presents give grant Bargain Sel Alien Conveigh and Confirm unto my son Malichi Butler of ye town and County and Province afores<sup>d</sup> A certain tract or Parcell of Land being in ye above s<sup>d</sup> town at a place called the Swiming Place bounded by ye harbor on ye East the Plain on ye West Thomas Daggetts Land on ye North and John Butler Jun<sup>r</sup> Land on ye South as allso one Whole Shear of Meadow Lying on ye South side of ye Island of Chapaquidock In s<sup>d</sup> Edgartown towards Waqua as allso one half quarter of Common or undivided Land throughout ye township Chapaquidock only Excepted. I ye s<sup>d</sup> John Butler having received and in hand paid or secured to be paid the full and Just sum of thirty five Pounds Money to my Satisfaction and Content for ye above s<sup>d</sup> Premises I say I give grant sel alien Conveigh and Confirm unto him my son Malichi him his heirs Executors Adminis<sup>s</sup> or assigns to hold with all and Every ye Privilidges and appurtinances there to belonging or any way appurtaining from me my heirs Executors Adminis<sup>s</sup> or assigns to have and to hold for Ever and In Witness to these Present I have hereunto Subscribed with my hand and put too my Seal all ways Reserving to my self ye youse and Improvement of ye one half from ye Roo of Stones North-erly during my Life.

Dated this twenty-fourth Day of March In ye year one thousand seven hundred and twenty One alias two

JOHN BUTLER.

Witness

John Butler Jun<sup>r</sup>

Gamaliel Butler



Dukes County ss March 29 1722

then the s<sup>d</sup> John Butler Personally appeared before me ye subscriber



Justice of ye peace for s<sup>d</sup> County & acknowledged the above written deed to be his act and deed.

Coram

ENOCH COFFIN

Entred May 10<sup>th</sup>  
day 1722.

Copied from Vol III., page 532, Edgartown Land Records.

To all People to Whom These Presents May Concern Capt. John Butler of Edgartown in Dukes County in ye Province of ye Massachusetts Bay in New England Gent Sendeth greeting. Know Yee that The pew in The Meeting house which was Granted To me By the said Town or Those men ye said Town Impowered To Grant the same which Pew is the Second on the East Side of the Pulpitt and I having at ye time of Building ye s<sup>d</sup> pew Promised it to my Son Gamaliel Butler and my Son Malachi Butler in Case they would Be Att ye Cost and Build ye said pew and They having Dun the Same therefore to The Intent That No Diference or Discord may hereafter Be Concerning s<sup>d</sup> Pew and That they may Enjoy it According as was Promised as Af<sup>d</sup>. I Do Therefore hereby Confirme ye Said pew to them and their heirs and Assigns for Ever the Said Gamaliel Being Eldest To have ye highest or upper End of s<sup>d</sup> Pew and Said Malachi Being ye Younger Shall have The Lowest End of ye Said pew for Ever Hereafter To have and To hold from one My heirs Executors Admins & Assigns for Ever And In Witnes To These presents I the Said John Butler have Hereunto Signed with my hand And put to my Seall the Twenty third Day of May Anno Domini 1732

JOHN BUTLER.

Sign<sup>d</sup> Seal<sup>d</sup> & Deliver<sup>d</sup> In presence of  
Benj<sup>m</sup> Smith  
Timothy Daggett.



Entered March 11<sup>th</sup> 1734/5

Copied from Vol. VI., page 85, Edgartown Land Records.

Dukes County ss May ye 23<sup>rd</sup> Anno 1732

Then ye above named John Butler personally appeared before me



ye Subscriber one of his Maiytys Justices of ye Peace for sd County and acknowledged ye above instrument to be his act and Deed

BENJA SMITH

Copy Attest :

L. C. WIMPENNEY,

*Register of Deeds for Dukes County.*

In the Name of God Amen. The Twenty fifth day of December Anno Domini Seventeen hundred & Thirty Two.

I Elizabeth Daggett of Edgartown in Dukes County in the Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England Gentlewoman Being very sick in body, but of Perfect mind & memory, blessed be God therefore. Calling to mind the Mortality of my body and knowing that it is Appointed for all Persons once to Dye and after that the Judgment, Do make & ordain this my Last will & Testament: First of all I Recomend my soul that gave it & my body to the Grave, to be buried in a Decent & Christian manner. And touching such Outward Estate as it hath pleased God to bless me withall. I Give and Dispose of the same in the following manner. Imprimis: I give & bequeath unto my loving son Benjamin Daggett my horse Andirons & Pott & all the Debts Due to me & Stillyards, he paying all my Just Debts & funerall Charges. I Likewise give to Benjamin my Gridiron & Tongs and four Cheers two of a sort.

Item: I give unto my Daughter Thankfull Daggett my best suit of Cloaths viz Gown & Petticoat.

Item: I give to my Daughter Mary Norton my Collaminco gown & my Red Curtains.

Item: I give unto my Daughter Jemimah Butler my Silk Crape suit of Cloaths.

Item I give unto my Daughter in Law Mary Daggett my silk scarf:

Item I give and bequeath unto my sons Timothy Thomas & Benjamin Daggett all my Toolles of all sorts and the Guns I have not given away before & my Oxen that are in Benjamins hands.

Item I give and bequeath unto my sons Timothy Thomas and Benjamin & to my Daughters Hannah Elizabeth Thankfull Mary & Jemimah all my stock of Creatures of all sorts Equally among them Except what is given away.

Item I give and bequeath unto my five Daughters Hannah Elizabeth Thankfull Mary & Jemimah all the Residue of my Apparell of

all sorts and household Stuff with all other my Estate whatsoever that I have not herein given to them before Equally.

Item I give to my grandson Samuel Daggett Seventy Shillings & to my grandchildren, viz. Seth Daggett Solomon Silvanus & betty alias Elizabeth Daggett Ten Shillings apeice, & to my grand Daughter Lidia Norton a pair of Gloves to be paid by my son Benjamin Daggett.

Lastly I hereby make Constitute & Appoint my Loving son Timothy Daggett my Sole Executor to this my Last Will and Testament. I witness whereof I have hereunto sett my hand & affixed my Seal y<sup>e</sup> Day & Year first above written.

ELIZABETH <sup>her</sup> **E D** DAGGETT.  
mark



Signed Sealed Published and Pronounced & Declared by the said Elizabeth Daggett to be her Last Will & Testament. In Presence of

Benj<sup>n</sup> Smith  
John Bassett  
Jedidah Smith

Copied from Probate Records, book 2d, page 79.  
A true copy. Attest:

BERIAH T. HILLMAN,  
*Register of Probate.*

To All Christian People To whom these Presents Shall Come Greeting Know yee that I Malachi Butler of Windham In ye County of Windham in ye Collony of Conneticut in New England Yeoman Do for and in Consideration of ye Sum of Twelve Pounds in Bills of Credit in ye Old Tenor To me in hand Well and Truly Paid att and Before ye Ensealling hereof By Shobal Butler of Edgar Town in ye County of Dukes County In ye Province of ye Massachusetts bay in New England Weaver The Receipt Whereof I Do hereby Acknowledge and my Self Therewith fully Satisfy<sup>d</sup> Contented & Paid To have Given Granted Bargained Sold Alined Released Convey<sup>d</sup> and Confirmed and Do by these presents Do Give Grant Bargain Sell Alien Release Convey & for Ever Confirm unto ye Shobal Butler his

heirs Execrs Adms and Assigns for Ever more ye one half of A pew In ye Meeting house in Edgartown Afs<sup>d</sup> and Being ye one half of ye Second pew from ye Pulpitt Eastward which half of said Pew Belonging unto me ye Said Malachi Butler ye other half Thereof Belonging unto Gamaliel Butler of said Edgartown To have and To hold ye Above Bargained Premises with the Appurtenances Thereunto Belonging or in any wise Appertaining Unto him ye Said Shobal Butler his heirs Execs Adms & Assigns for Ever more I the Said Malachi Butler Do for my Self my heirs Execs Adms Covenant Grant and Agree unto and with ye said Shobal Butler his heirs and Assigns that at ye Time of ye Ensealling hereof I am ye True Sole and Lawfull owner and Possessor of ye Before Granted and Bargained Premises and have in my Self Good Rightfull Power and Lawfull Authority To Give Grant Bargain Sell Alien Release Convey and Confirme ye Same for Ever more as Aboves<sup>d</sup> Unto him ye Said Shobal Butler his heirs and Assigns in Witness Whereof I have hereunto Put to my hand and Seall the Twenty Ninth Day of Jan<sup>ry</sup> A. D. 1744.

MALACHI BUTLER.

Sing<sup>d</sup> Sealed and Delivered  
In Presence of us  
John Norton  
Benajah Donhom



Dukes County ss

The within named Malachi Butler Personally appearing on ye Twenty Ninth Day of Jan<sup>ry</sup> Anno Domini 1744/5 Acknowledged ye Above and within Written Instrument To be his act and Deed Before.

Entered Febr<sup>y</sup> 22<sup>d</sup> 1744/5  
Vol. 7. Page 159.

SIMEON BUTLER } Justice  
of ye  
Peace.

A true copy. Attest:

L. C. WIMPENNEY.

*Register of Deeds for Dukes County.*

To All People to whom these Presents shall Come Greeting Know ye that I Malachi Butler of Woodbury in ye County of Litchfield in ye Coloney of Conneticut in New England Yeoman for and in Consideration of ye Sum of Eight Pounds Lawfull money to me in hand well and Truly Paid at and Before the Ensealling And Delivery hereof by John Pease of Edgartown in ye County of Dukes County in ye Province of ye Massachusetts Bay in New England Afores<sup>d</sup>: Cord-

wainer the Receipt whereof I Do hereby Acknowledge and Whereof Do Acquitt and Discharge ye s<sup>d</sup> John Pease his heirs Exec<sup>s</sup> and Adm<sup>rs</sup> for Ever by these Presents Have Given granted Bargained Sold Convey<sup>d</sup> and Confirmed and By these Presents Do fully and freely Give Grant Bargain Sell Convey and Confirm unto ye s<sup>d</sup> John Pease his heirs and Assigns for Ever ye Sachim and Planting Rights of a Certain Tract or Parcell of Land Lying and Being in Edgartown Afores<sup>d</sup> on ye Island of Chapoquidick Containing Twenty Acers and is Bounded as followeth Viz: Westerly Partly on John Sumners Salt Meadow Commonly Called ye Majors Meadow and Partly on Samuel Nortons Meadow and Extending by s<sup>d</sup> Nortons Meadow Till it Comes To ye harbour Then Extending Easterly on ye South by the harbour and on ye North by ye s<sup>d</sup> Sumners meadow Till it makes up ye Quantity of Twenty Acers Together with all ye Appurtenances and Priveledges Thereunto belonging To have & To Hold ye s<sup>d</sup> Granted and Bargained Premises from me ye S<sup>d</sup> Malachi Butler my heirs Exec<sup>s</sup> And Adm<sup>rs</sup> and Assigns To his and their only Proper Use Benefitt and behoofe for Ever and I the s<sup>d</sup> Malachi Butler Do Avouch my Self at ye and Before ye Ensealing and Delivery hereof To be the True and Lawfull owner of the Above Granted Premises and have in my Self good Righte and Lawfull Authority To grant Sell and Convey the S<sup>d</sup> Granted and Bargained Premises in manner as Afores<sup>d</sup> free and Clear from all Incumbrances Whatsoever

In Witness and Confirmation whereof I ye S<sup>d</sup> Malachi Butler have hereunto Set my hand and Seal ye Twenty Eighth Day of March in the thirty first Year of his majestys Reign King George ye Second Annog<sup>s</sup> Domini one Thousand Seven hundred and fifty Eight.

MALACHI BUTLER

Signed Sealed & Dld  
In ye Presence of  
John Sumner  
Jedidah Sumner Junr



Dukes County Ss March 28<sup>th</sup> 1758  
The Above named Malachi Butler  
Personally Appearing Acknowledged  
ye Above written Instrument to be his  
Act and Deed Before me

John Sumner Justice of ye  
Peace.

Entered March 28<sup>th</sup> 1758  
Volume 8. Page 563.

A true copy. Attest:

L. C. WIMPENNEY,  
*Register of Deeds for Dukes County.*

Parents, JOHN BUTLER<sup>3</sup>; m. PRISCILLA NORTON<sup>2</sup>. Mr. Butler's will made Nov. 10, 1733, aged about 80 yrs.

Son, Henry<sup>4</sup>; m. Sarah —.

Son, John, Jr.<sup>4</sup>; m. Dec. 16, 1708, Elizabeth Daggett, dau. of Capt. Thomas Daggett.

Son, Thomas<sup>4</sup>; m. Sept. 18, 1702, Anne Torrey of Weymouth; he d. before his father; she d. Oct. 1, 1733, aged about 51 yrs.

Son, Nicholas<sup>4</sup>; m. Sept. 6, 1726, Sarah Ripley; m. Jan. 1, 1730, Thankful Marchant.

Son, Samuel<sup>4</sup>; m. after 1712 Elizabeth (Clay) Stanbridge, widow of Samuel Stanbridge; d. Dec. 23, 1769; he d. Feb. 24, 1765, aged 52 yrs.

Dau., Joyce<sup>4</sup>; m. Nov. 20, 1705, Joseph Newcomb.

Son, Onesimus<sup>4</sup>.

Son, Simcon<sup>4</sup>; m. about 1712 Hannah Cheney.

Son, Zephaniah<sup>4</sup>; m. Thankful Daggett; he d. Sept. 15, 1721.

Son, Malichi<sup>4</sup>; m. Jemimah Daggett.

Dau., Priscilla<sup>4</sup>; m. in 1748 widow of Thomas (?) Snow, who d. before 1748.

Son, Gamaliel<sup>4</sup>; m. Sarah Chase; he d. Feb. 24, 1765, aged 74 yrs.

*Hawes*

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Parents, THOMAS DAGGETT<sup>3</sup>; m. ELIZABETH HANES; her will made 1732; d. 1733; he d. Aug. 25, 1726.

Son, Timothy<sup>4</sup>; m. May 6, 1714, Mary Smith; he d. Sept. 17, 1775, aged 85 yrs.; she d. Oct. 2, 1781, aged 87 yrs.

Son, Thomas<sup>4</sup>; m. Love Coffin, b. Sept. 13, 1702; d. Oct. 4, 1789; he d. May 7, 1783, aged 83 yrs.

Son, Benjamin<sup>4</sup>; m. Margery Holmes; he d. about 1791, aged 90 yrs.; she d. May 31, 1783, aged 73 yrs.

Son, Samuel<sup>4</sup>; m. July 11, 1705, Mary Pease "dau. of Tho<sup>s</sup> Pease," b. Feb. 17, 1685; d. Apr. 9, 1767; he d. before 1726.

Dau., Betsey<sup>4</sup>; m. Dec. 16, 1708, John Butler.

Dau., Mary<sup>4</sup>, b. Aug. 8, 1698; m. about 1722 Matthew Norton<sup>3</sup>, b. Apr. 12, 1696; d. Dec. 5, 1779; he d. Dec. 13, 1779.

Dau., Thankful<sup>4</sup>; m. 1st Zephaniah Butler; he d. Sept. 15, 1721; m. 2d Brotherton Daggett; he d. March 5, 1740, aged 53 yrs.

Dau., Hannah<sup>4</sup>; m. Joseph Norton.

Dau., Jemimah<sup>4</sup>; m. Malichi Butler.

Dau., Desire<sup>4</sup>.

## HENRY BUTLER.

— 1144509

Henry Butler, of Dorchester, was the son of Nicholas and Joyce Butler. His wife was Anne, probably a daughter of John Holman. [Abstract of a deed from Butler to Holman, dated 4th August, 1673.—*Suffolk Deeds, Lib. 9, Fol. 46.*] Mr. Butler was born in the County of Kent, England, and came to the Massachusetts Colony with his father in 1637. He received the degree of *M. A.* at Harvard College, and seems to have been connected with the Dorchester school, as late as the year 1652. Returning to England, he spent a year or two in Dorchester, and then settled in Seoril (in Somersetshire), where he continued public minister till August 24, 1662. He continued his ministry afterwards in that town, and in other places as he had opportunity, and was often convicted, apprehended, and imprisoned. He suffered great losses by fines and seizures of his goods, and was often forced to remove from his habitation. At length he settled at a place in England called Withamfrary, about five miles from Frome, where he was pastor of a congregation, and no danger from enemies, weather, or indisposition of body hindered him from meeting his people, either in private houses or in Sir Edward Seymour's woods, as was thought most safe; and though it was with difficulty and hazard that they met together, the congregation grew and he did much good.



Though he had not £20 per annum to live upon until about two years before his death, no offers of worldly advantage would tempt him to leave his charge. He was much afflicted with stone in the latter part of his life, and yet continued his labors among his people as his strength would permit. He died April 24, 1696, aged 72. His last words were: "A broken and a contrite heart, Oh God, thou wilt not despise"—*Palmer's Non-conformist Memorial, Vol. 2, Page 388.*

"In 1670, when the church in Dorchester was about to choose a minister to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Mr. Mather, three candidates were nominated, one of whom was 'Mr. Butler, in Old England.'"

The "Butler School" at the "Upper Mills Village" has been appropriately named for this ancient instructor of our fathers.—*History of Dorchester.*

FROM EDGERTON TOWN RECORDS.

"This record testifieth yt whereas there was a debt due to John Butler, deceased, supposed to be £18, upon account between his brother, Mr. Henry Butler, in England, and himself, and ye said Mr. Henry Butler having assigned John Minot of Dorchester, in ye Massachusetts Bay, to discharge ye said debt to ye said John Butler, his assigns; ye said assigns of John Butler, with Mr. Nicholas Butler, his father, have agreed yt upon ye receipt of ye six part of this aforementioned debt by me, Nicholas Butler, yt all debts, dues, demands and accounts of what nature soever shall be acquitted and discharged.

In witness whereof ye said Mr. Nicholas Butler and Mary Butler his daughter-in-law, have interchangeably set to their hands this 31st July, 1658.

Witness my hand,

NICHOLAS BUTLER.

MARY BUTLER.

This was done in the presence of ye town."













